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# Michigan State AFL-CIO

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MARK T. GAFFNEY, *President*

TINA ABBOTT, *Secretary-Treasurer*

February 1, 2011

Subject: Testimony of Michael Keller, Michigan State AFL-CIO  
to Members of the House Oversight, Reforms, and Ethics Committee

Dear Members of the House Oversight, Reforms and Ethics Committee:

House Bill 4135 is legislation that only applies to the firefighters and police officers in the city of Detroit. The issue at hand is whether the selection of pension board members is a subject to be addressed within the collective bargaining process.

This is a local issue that is properly resolved by local government. The retiree board member issue is currently a part of a larger arbitration case that is expected to come to resolution as this process concludes.

While we understand that the pace in which this case is progressing may be causing some frustration amongst proponents of this legislation, we also understand the importance of local jurisdiction and local government control. We strongly urge you to oppose this bill and allow local governance to function as it should in these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Keller".

Michael Keller  
Legislative Director

Cc: Mark Gaffney

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